



# **National Youth Integrity Survey 2015**

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# Chapter One

## Introduction

### 1.1 Introduction

It is globally recognized that a country's sustainable development depends on the extensive contribution of the human capital. The youth are undoubtedly energetic, confident, creative, productive and the core driving force of any nation. With proper education, sound knowledge and expected level of integrity the youth is an asset for the society and they are capable of overcoming any challenge.

In Bangladesh, one third of the total population belongs to the youth. Youth are the most energetic and productive segment of the country. The national development mostly depends on their working spirit and initiatives. In Bangladesh, the number of economically active population or labor force (15+) is 56.7 million and youth labor force (aged 15-29) is 20.9 million<sup>1</sup> which is one of the key reasons behind the country's fast economic growth.

The history of our nation is enlightened by the heroic contribution of the youth. The youth of the country played a vital role in the language movement of 1952, the mass upsurge of 1969, the liberation war of 1971 and in all crises after liberation. And like always, at present the youth can play a pivotal role in creating a society free of terrorism, social injustice, exploitation, corruption and crime.<sup>2</sup> For continuous development, Bangladesh needs the adequate number of efficient and honest youth who will lead the nation to a global standard. Only the right education with the practice of integrity can ensure the desired level of human capital.<sup>3</sup>

### 1.2 Concept of Integrity

The National Integrity Strategy Paper of Bangladesh defines integrity as behavioral excellence influenced by ethics, morality and honesty.<sup>4</sup> It also implies adherence to time-tested norms, values, customs and principles of a society. At the individual level, it means being duty-bound and honest. For promotion of integrity, strictness in observing the proprieties at individual level is of critical importance. It is equally true about organizations, as they are the manifestation of the overall goal of the individuals. Laws, regulations, organizational processes, systems and the philosophy of a state should be formulated and followed in such a manner that they promote righteousness in life.

Transparency International (TI) defines integrity as “[b]ehaviours and actions, consistent with a set of moral and ethical principles and standards, embraced by individuals as well as institutions

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<sup>1</sup>Bangladesh Bureau of Statics (BBS) 2013, *Statistical Pocketbook of Banglades-2013*

<sup>2</sup>Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh 2003, *National Youth Policy 2003*

<sup>3</sup>TIB 2008, *Youth Integrity Index, Bangladesh Report*

<sup>4</sup>Cabinet Division Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh October 2012, *Commitment for Golden Bengal, National Integrity Strategy of Bangladesh*

*that create a barrier to corruption*".<sup>5</sup> According to a research report<sup>6</sup> of TI integrity is a consistent combination of specific expectations, values and principles and the actions, methods and results that should go hand in hand with this specific belief system. When a person's or institution's values and actions are consistent with each other, trust and predictability are created, which, in turn, help societies function. A true commitment to principles and values creates fair rules for everyone, an environment where no exceptions are permitted and no compromises are made with morality.

An environment built on integrity holds no place for the different forms of corruption: bribes, nepotism, conflicts of interest or any other abuse of power for personal gain. Without personal integrity, no organization, business structure or government can function properly and societies do not work. Societies that foster integrity are investing in the nations' present and future. Young people can be a key force in demanding and promoting accountability, based on integrity on the part of their governments and their societies in general. Therefore, understanding young people's attitudes to – and actual experience of – corruption is vital if we are to measure the state of integrity among them. Their own value systems and experiences will decide if they will engage in pushing for and protecting integrity.

### **1.3 Bangladesh country context**

Ethics and morality of persons implies their attitude towards integrity. Lack of integrity leads them to corruption, dishonesty, crime etc. Social values, culture, family bonding have influence on people's lives and moral development. Low level of integrity or widespread corruption is not only an economic, political and criminal issue, but it also changes the perception and understanding of people. Sometimes they accept deviated integrity or corrupt practices as a very normal behavior or action. This should be addressed by the society committed to establish integrity at all levels.

Corruption has an adverse impact on all levels of the society. In Bangladesh young people along with adults experience corruption while interacting with public and private institutions in their everyday lives. International surveys have also shown that youth are particularly vulnerable as victims of corruption.<sup>7</sup> According to TI's Global Corruption Barometer (GCB) 2013, 27 per cent of people under the age of 30 worldwide paid a bribe in the last 12 months.<sup>8</sup> Another publication of TI said youth tend to be more open to wide-scale socio-political transformation and have less vested interested in maintaining the status quo (TI, 2009). Young people are an integral element for the success of a cultural change in attitudes and behavior towards corruption and in the shaping of the values of tomorrow, since they represent the future of their countries.

On the other hand, The findings of the Transparency International's Youth Integrity Survey conducted in four countries of Asia Pacific Region in 2012 show that young people often struggle to live up to their own integrity standards. They are willing to act corruptly for their

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<sup>5</sup> Transparency International 2011, *Piloting Transparency International's Youth Integrity survey: Youth Integrity in Vietnam*

<sup>6</sup> TI 2014, *Asia pacific youth: Integrity in crisis*

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>8</sup> U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Center, Transparency International 2013, *Best practices in engaging youth in the fight against corruption*

personal benefit, often feeling that corruption is the only option available for them to get ahead in life. However, the survey results also reveal that young people know that corruption is wrong, are willing to report on and expose corruption, and aspire to live in societies that are fair, transparent and rooted in integrity.<sup>9</sup> Bangladesh scored the highest score among four other countries in the Youth Integrity Index 2008.<sup>10</sup> It showed Bangladeshi youth was in a strong position regarding their Integrity level.

Bangladesh Government has special emphasis on self-purification and integrity in all activities of the state. The government institutions play an important role in the promotion of integrity and prevention of corruption. The role of non-government institutions and organizations like family, educational institutions, media, civil society and NGOs, and businesses is equally important. In recent years, national anti-corruption efforts have been significantly strengthened towards giving importance to the mobilization of society and citizens in the prevention and fight against corruption. At the same time changing thoughts and behavior of the youth towards corruption is vital to ensure that anti-corruption achievements remain sustainable.

#### **1.4 Rationale**

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) has given a special emphasis in sensitizing and engaging the young generation in the anti-corruption movement and developing virtues of good citizens – honesty, integrity, ethics, patriotism and social responsibility through its Youth Engagement and Support (YES) program. To instigate young voice against corruption TIB undertakes various programs to inform the young generation about the ill effects of corruption, so that these future leaders start to hate corruption and prepare themselves to be capable of rejecting and fighting corruption. To engage the youth effectively in a greater movement against corruption, it is important to explore their perception and status of integrity, and thus help build their capacity to promote integrity. In 2008, TIB carried out a pilot survey as part of youth integrity index initiated by TI. This time Youth Integrity Survey (YIS) 2015 in Bangladesh has also been conducted, as a part of of TI's Asia Pacific Regional Program 2015.

The survey is based on the view that corruption is a social-political problem that needs to be handled through generational change, both on the level of society and government. It will help understanding youth's perception and attitude towards integrity that composed of morality, ethics, righteousness, abiding law and fighting against corruption. Some other TI chapters of Asia pacific also carried out this survey.

#### **1.5 Objectives of the Survey**

The main objective of this survey is to assess the perception of youths on integrity and corruption, especially concerning their values, ethical standards and overall attitude towards various hypothetical life situations. Youth's anti corruption awareness and willingness to fight against corruption is also assessed.

The specific objectives are:

- To assess the views and opinions of youth about integrity and corruption;
- To know about their experience of corruption on different sectors;

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<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>10</sup> TI-Korea 2008, *Youth Integrity Index, Report of 2008 Pilot surveys*

- To assess their level of commitment and willingness to fight against corruption; and
- To compare the views of youths with the adults on integrity and corruption.

In this survey TI's definition<sup>11</sup> on integrity has been considered as the benchmark and used to formulate the questionnaire. This concept was then broken down into different key questions to find out the current level of youth integrity.

In Bangladesh people age of 18-35 are treated as youth<sup>12</sup>. However, in this survey, the age group between 15 to 30 years has been considered as youth (which is also followed by other countries where this survey has been conducted). A control group of adults aged above 30 years was also asked the same questions in order to explore the similarities and/ or differences.

## 1.6 Methodology

### 1.6.1 Survey method and sampling

In this survey a Multi- Stage Stratified Systematic Sampling method was used for selecting households. A sample size of 3656 was determined with the proportion of 58 per cent rural and 42 per cent urban samples. The following steps were followed for selecting households in the survey:

- In the first stage, from the list of all (64) districts, 31 districts have been chosen randomly.
- In the second stage, from each district *mauzas*<sup>13</sup> are selected through random sampling. These *mauzas* are considered as the primary sampling unit (PSU) in this survey. The total number of *mauzas* was 461. The total number of PSU is determined proportionately according to the population density of the districts.
- Finally, households were selected from each PSU following a Systematic Sampling method. The first household was selected randomly from the entry point of the respective *mauza* and rest of the households is selected with an interval of five households. From each *mauza* eight (8) households were selected for the survey. In each household one youth member or adult member was selected on the basis of availability for the interview.

A total of 3,656 youths and adults between the ages of 15 and 65 from the households were interviewed in this survey. Among these respondents 2,419 (66.2%) were youth and 1,237 (33.8%) were adults. The sample distribution regarding rural-urban and adult-youth is as followed:

Age Group	Rural	Urban	Total
Youth(15-30)	1407	1012	2419
Adult (31+)	721	516	1237
<b>Total</b>	<b>2128</b>	<b>1528</b>	<b>3656</b>

<sup>11</sup> Integrity means "[b]ehaviours and actions, consistent with a set of moral and ethical principles and standards, embraced by individuals as well as institutions that create a barrier to corruption".

<sup>12</sup>Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh 2003, *National Youth Policy 2003*

<sup>13</sup> According to Population and Housing Census 2011, Community Series of Bangladesh Bureau of Statics (BBS), "Mauza" is the lowest administrative unit having a separate jurisdiction list number (J.L No) in revenue records. Every mauza has its well demarcated cadastral map. Mauza should be distinguished from local village since a mauza may consist of one or more villages. .

### **1.6.2 Questionnaire**

A structured questionnaire was applied to collect information from the selected respondents. At first a draft questionnaire was finalized and it was finalized after a field-test. This questionnaire consists of questions on the respondents' concept of and attitude towards integrity, their experience of and reaction to corruption, their knowledge of integrity and anti-corruption rules and regulations, who and/ or what influences them etc.

### **1.6.3 Duration of the Survey**

The survey was conducted between 22 April, 2015 and 7 May, 2015.

### **1.6.4 Survey Management and Quality Control of Data**

Survey data was collected by 77 enumerators. For carrying out the fieldwork, TIB's YES members having a minimum of a graduation degree were appointed as enumerators through a competitive process. Candidates having experience of surveys were given preference.

The successful candidates were provided with a two-day training. The training included a detail discussion on the questionnaire and techniques to fill-up the questionnaire properly. Afterwards, as part of the training the questionnaire was field tested by the trainees in nearby areas. The skill of the data collectors was strengthened through reflecting on their performance in the questionnaire-testing. During the survey, researchers and other local level officials of TIB were engaged in overall monitoring and supervision of data collection process. A portion of filled-in questionnaires (randomly selected) were checked (accompany check, back check, spot check, telephone check) by TIB researchers and officials to maintain the quality. Any information gaps identified through these check were corrected accordingly.

### **1.7 Data Processing and Analysis**

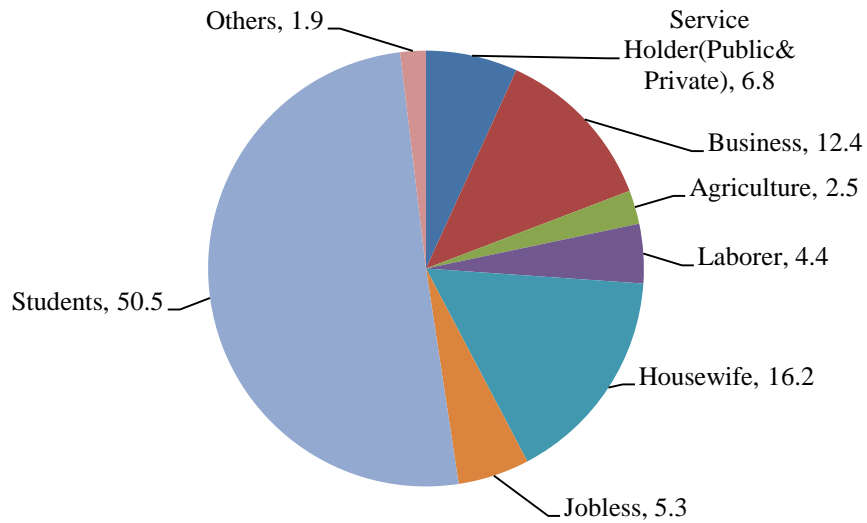
Once the data collection was completed, a team comprising of four skilled enumerators was deployed for questionnaire editing and data entry. Before data entry, errors in filled-in questionnaires were eliminated. After completion of data entry data cleaning and screening was done to find out and remove entry errors. Finally, data was analyzed using statistical packages (SPSS). A measure of percentage and mean value of different indicators and variables was the key to data analysis.

### **1.8 Socio-economic and demographic information of the respondents**

Among all the households included in this survey, 58.2 per cent households are located in rural areas and 41.8 per cent households in urban areas. Most of the respondents are Bengali, whereas 2.6 per cent of youth and 2.3 per cent of adults are from other ethnic groups. Around 90 per cent of the total respondents are Muslims and the rest belong to other religious groups.

Among the youth, 67 per cent respondents are male and 33 per cent are females, their average age is 22 years, and 65 per cent of them are unmarried. Most of the married respondents are females. Only 5 per cent youth are illiterate or can sign only. On the contrary most of the youth are educated up to higher secondary and above. The survey data shows that more than 50 per cent of the youth are students, while 5.3 per cent stated themselves as jobless. Besides, by occupation there are also housewives, business people, service holders etc. among the youth.

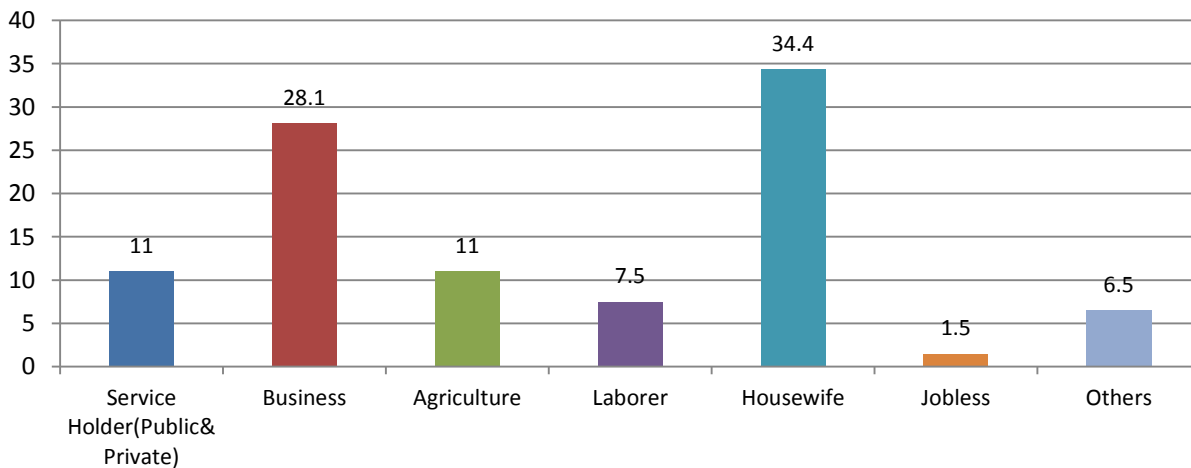
**Figure 1: Occupation of Youth Respondents (%)**



The respondents were asked whether they are satisfied with the monthly income of their respective family. 59 per cent youth remarked it as quite all right, whereas 11.2 per cent said that it is difficult to live on this income. The survey data shows that 25 per cent youth possess computer and 47 per cent use internet as well. 72 per cent youth either listen to radio or watch television every day. 39 per cent of them read newspaper everyday while 19 per cent never read newspaper. Among the youth respondents 35.8 per cent access internet every day. Considering all, the majority of the youth is satisfied with the standard of their livelihood.

In case of adult respondents, 62 per cent respondents are male and 38 per cent are female and their average age is 42 years. Regarding marital status most of the adults (92%) are married. It is notable that a significant portion of adults (27.6%) are found illiterate or can sign only. Among others 32.4 per cent are educated up to secondary level. 34.4 per cent of the adults are housewives, while 28.1 per cent are businessmen and 11 per cent are service holders.

**Figure 2: Occupation of Adult Respondents (%)**





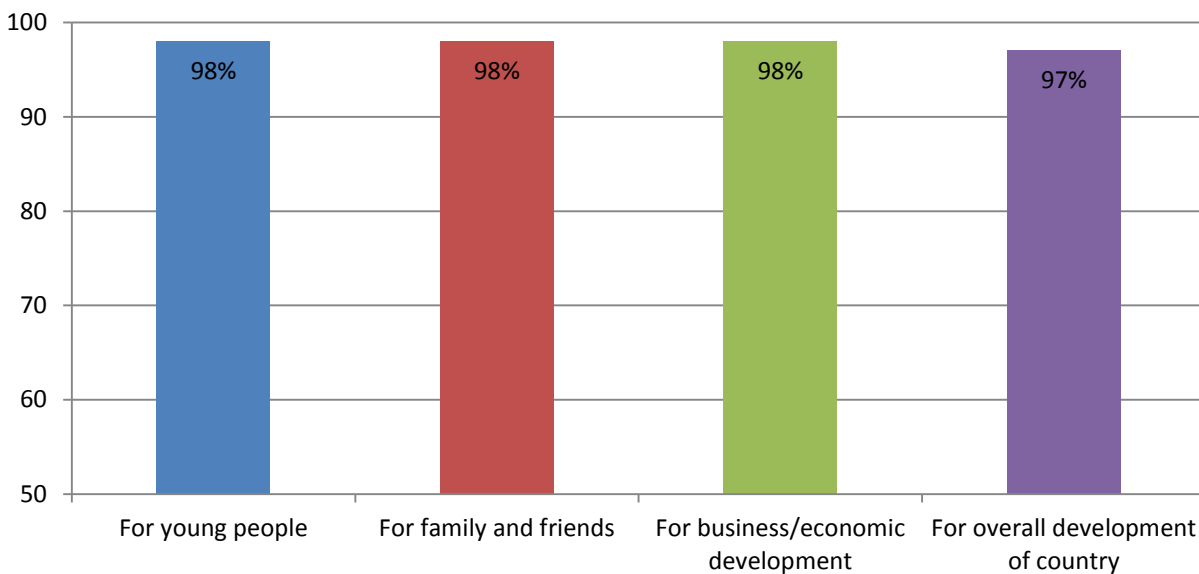
Regarding the monthly income of the family, 52 per cent of the adult respondents commented it as quite all right, whereas 23 per cent consider it difficult to live on this income. The survey data shows that only 14 per cent adult possess computer and 16 per cent use internet. So it is seen that adults use less technology in comparison of youth. On the other hand, 65 per cent adults either listen to radio or watch television every day and 27 per cent of them read newspaper every day while a large portion of adult (44%) never read newspaper. Considering all, the majority of the adults are also satisfied with the standard of their livelihood.

In the survey, the respondents were asked about their active involvement with any civil society organization (CSOs). Most of the respondents are found having no involvement with any CSO. Only 8.6 per cent youth and 6.1 per cent adults reported their association with CSOs.

### **2.1 Perception on Integrity**

To understand how youth perceive the effects of integrity they were asked whether corruption or lack of integrity is detrimental for their development, for their family, for the economy and for the overall development of the country. This also tests their awareness about the negative effects of corruption.

**Figure 3: ‘Lack of integrity’ is a major problem**



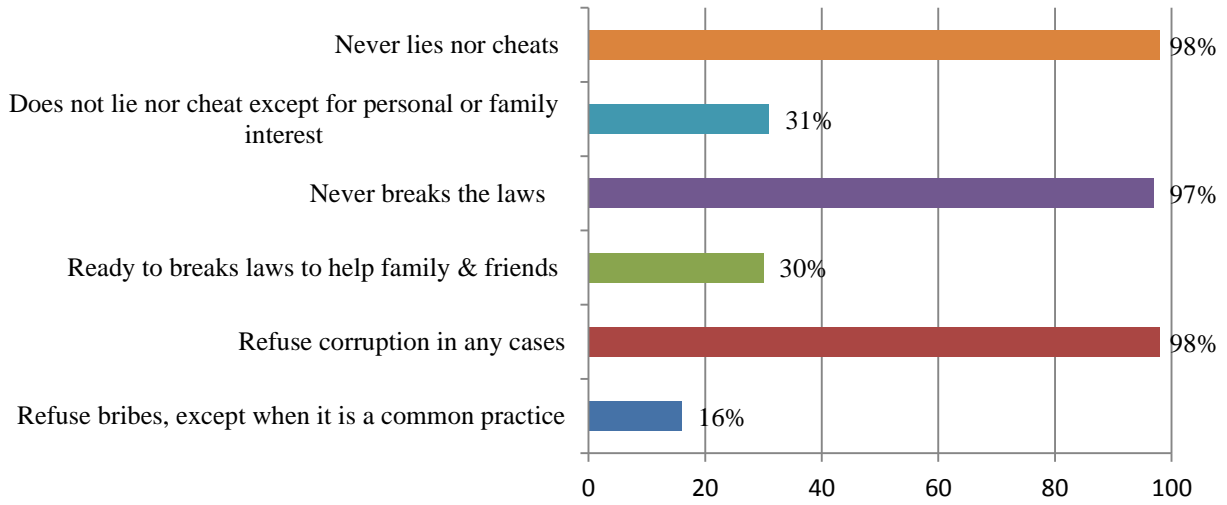
As shown in Figure 3, more than 97 per cent of youth agreed that corruption or lack of integrity is detrimental for themselves, for their families, for economic development and even for the overall development of the country.

One of the major objectives of this survey was to frame the general idea or notion of the Bangladeshi youth about integrity and corruption. Hence, there are survey questions sought to find out the perception of young people about a “person with integrity”, to build an understanding of what standards young people attribute to the concept of “integrity”.

The survey findings show that the Bangladeshi youth usually clings to a highly moralistic concept of integrity. They are aware of what is right and wrong according to the social norms and values. As shown in Figure 4, 97 per cent to 98 per cent of youth surveyed believed that a person of integrity never lies nor cheats, never breaks the law and refuses corruption in every cases.

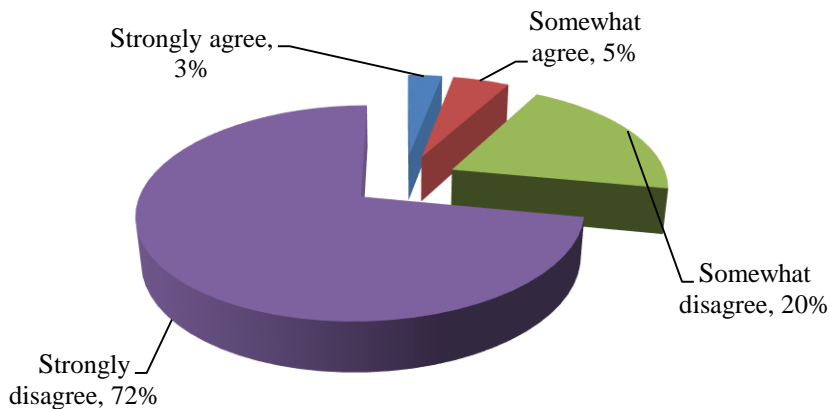
However, deeper questions relating to their personal gains and interest reveal some moral dilemma in a section of them. In response to a more ethically challenging question, around 30 per cent of youth agreed that one can be termed as ‘A person of integrity’ even after breaking the law out of family loyalty, or lying and cheating for the sake of family or personal interest. 16 per cent of the youth considered a person as honest who refuses bribes, except when it is a common practice in resolving problems or difficult situation.

**Figure 4: A ‘Person of integrity’ means ...**



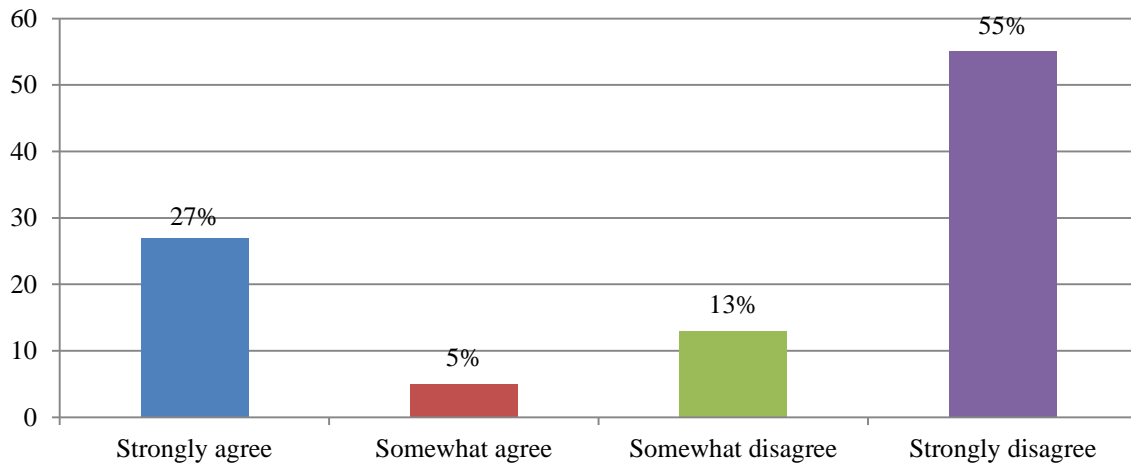
To explore the youths’ thought about corruption they were asked to rank statements in terms of the extent to which they agreed with them. Figure 5 shows that 72 per cent of the youth strongly disagree with the statement that ‘being rich is more important than being honest’. Another 20 per cent of them showed somewhat alignment of giving more importance to be honest. However, only 3 per cent of the youth preferred being rich.

**Figure 5: Opinion on the statement ‘Being rich is more important than being honest’**



To explore more about the youths' belief about what it takes to succeed, there was another question in this section asking whether an honest person has a better chance to succeed in life than a dishonest person. Among the respondents 55 per cent expressed their strong support against the notion, while in contrast, a significant number of youth (27%) strongly supported that dishonest people who are ready to cheat, break the law and act corruptly, are more likely to be successful in life.

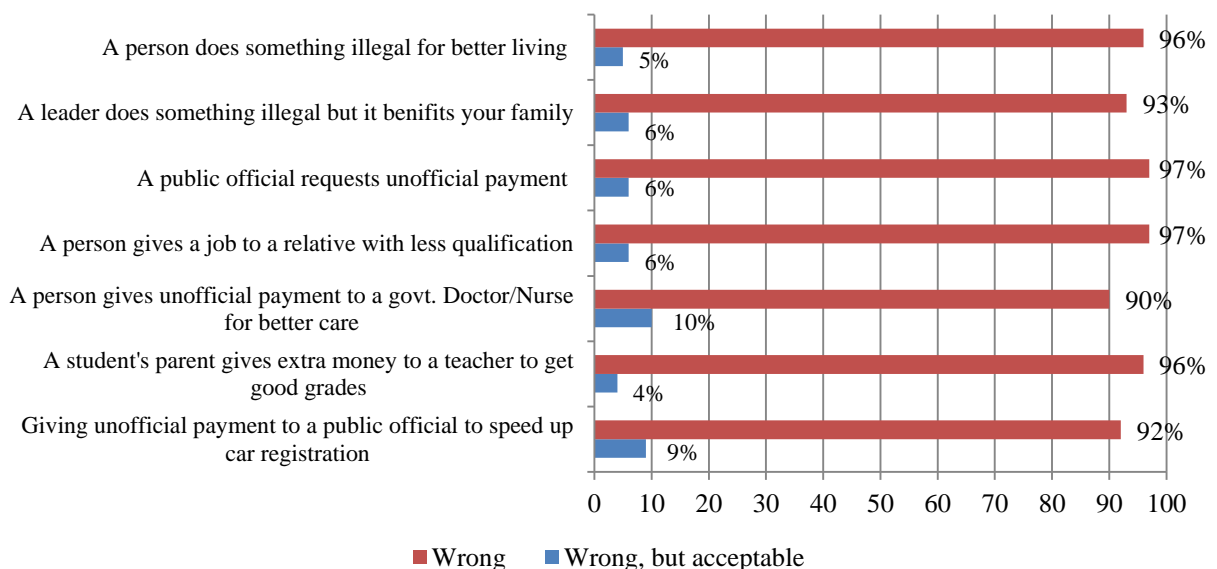
**Figure 6: Opinion on the statement ‘dishonest people, who are ready to lie and cheat, are more likely to be successful in life than honest people’**



## 2.2 Values and attitudes towards integrity

The survey also explored the youth understanding of integrity concept from a different angle by presenting a range of deviated behaviors, aiming to diagnose their values and attitudes on those. They were asked to comment on those behaviors as ‘right’ or ‘wrong’ and whether they think those as ‘acceptable’ or ‘not acceptable’.

**Figure 7: Perception and attitude about integrity**



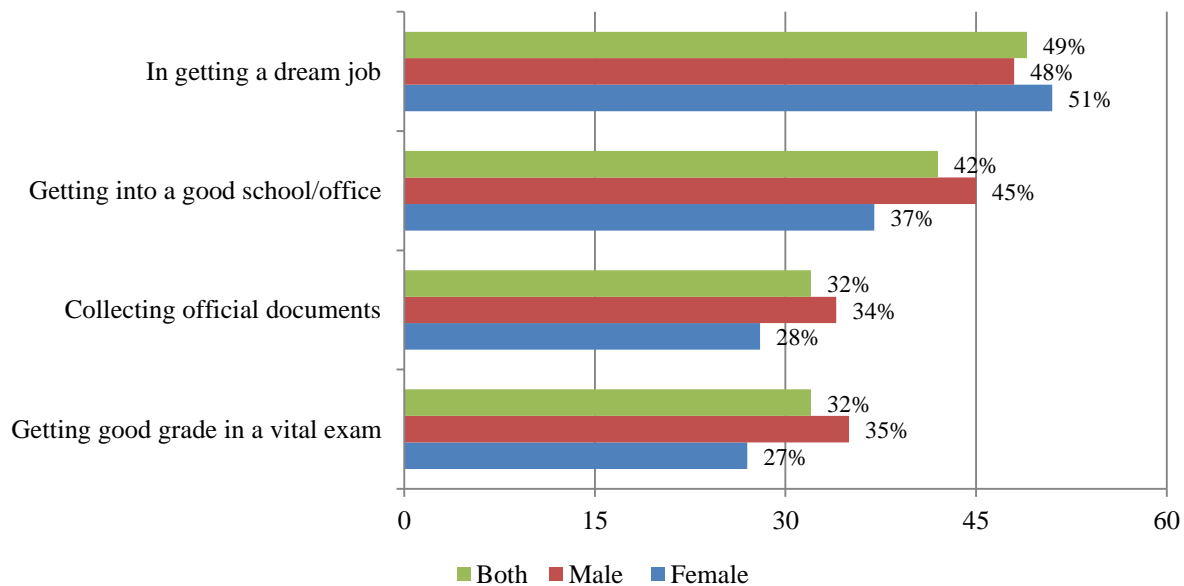
As shown in Figure 7, more than 90 per cent of youth considered all the behaviours presented here as wrong, which shows the level of clarity on integrity standards. Some of them however, ranging from 4 to 10 per cent of all the youth respondents agreed that some wrong doings are currently accepted in our social context, as the social system does not always allow them to act on their principles. Here, 97 per cent of youth agreed that requesting unofficial payments or bribes to sign a document by a public official, or providing job to a relative with less qualification, depriving a qualified applicant, is wrong, whereas 6 per cent among them in both cases considered this as acceptable. To a slightly lesser extent, 90 per cent of youth acknowledged that giving extra payments to a government doctor or nurse is wrong, whereas 10 per cent of them mentioned this as acceptable, despite believing that as wrong behavior. Again 92 per cent of youth acknowledged that bribing a public official to speed up a car registration is wrong. However, 9 per cent of them reported the behaviour as acceptable in our societal context in spite of acknowledging that as wrong attitude.

The responses here to these attitude-based questions signaled to an increasing acceptance level towards the behaviour that is believed to be wrong by the Bangladeshi youth.

### 2.3 Integrity in real life situations

The objective of this part of the questionnaire was to identify the youths’ attitudes to integrity framing in different hypothetical real life situations. Responses to these questions attempted only to provide a quantitative picture of the youth who would admit to being willing to compromise the standards of integrity in different real life scenarios. Four hypothetical life scenarios were tested. Figure 8 below depicts that there is a variation in taking decisions to violate integrity by male and female youths.

**Figure 8: Willing to take decisions violating integrity in different situations**

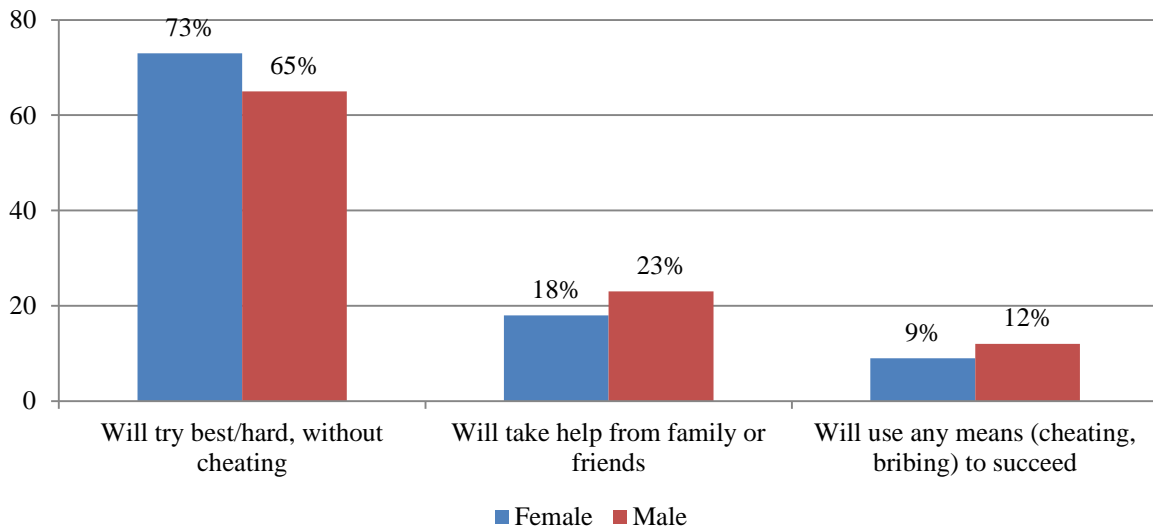


Here, on an average 37 per cent female youths are willing to take decisions that violate the integrity standards in different situations, where as 41 per cent male youths are willing to compromise their integrity in certain situations. However, in case of getting a dream job, females are seemingly more willing to compromise with the principles of integrity.

**Getting a good grade**

The first question asked here was to know the rate of youths that are willing to cheat on an exam. According to the findings, the majority of youth (73% female and 65% male) will try their best without cheating. On the contrary, 9 per cent female and 12 per cent male youths are desperate to succeed by using any means, even cheating or bribing.

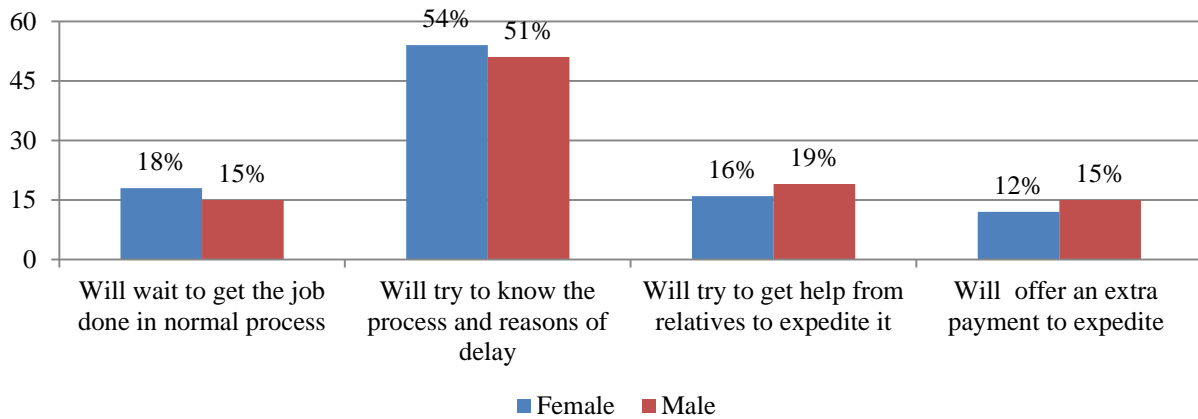
**Figure 9: Opinion on getting a good grade which is vital to pass or for job**



**Obtaining a document**

Youths were asked what they would do in case of collecting an official document, such as permit or driving license, while the responsible public officer is reluctant to act accordingly rather wasting time. Here, 12 per cent of female respondents admitted that they would directly offer an extra payment to expedite the work and 16 per cent female would try to get help from their friends or relatives to get the job done in time.

**Figure 8: Opinion on obtaining documents, when the official is not willing to act**

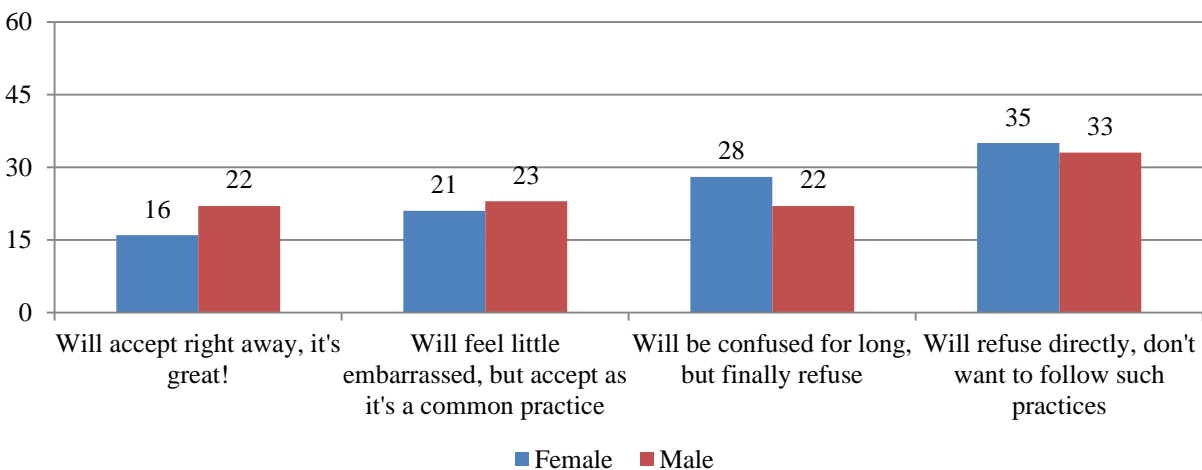


In case of male respondents, 15 per cent of them are ready to offer an extra payment directly and 19 per cent of them are willing to get help from their relatives. However, 54 per cent female and 51 per cent male respondents replied that they would try to know the process in details and another 18 per cent female and 15 per cent male respondents would wait to get the job done in normal process. It indicates that the female respondents are relatively less prone to compromise their principles of integrity than their male counterparts in collecting official documents.

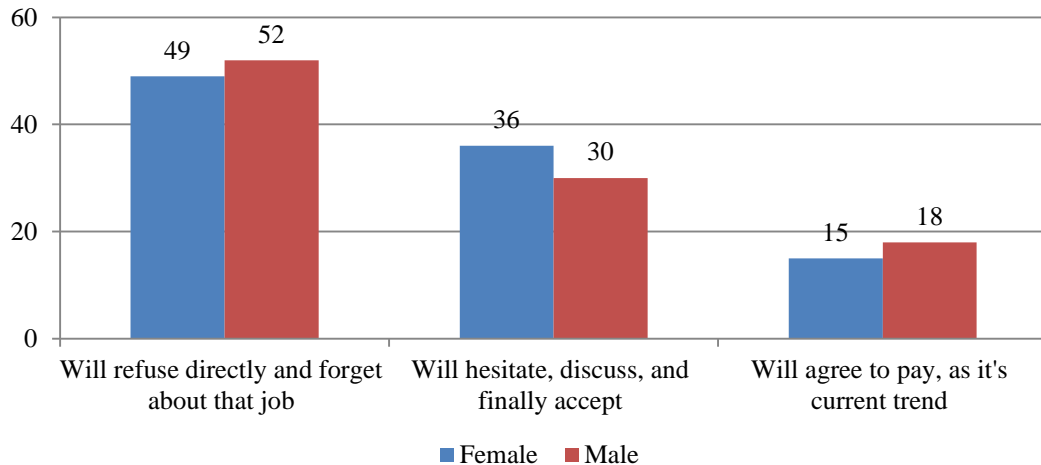
#### ***Getting into a good school/university/company***

In the next presented scenario, respondents were asked if any of their relatives offered them to help get into a very good school or job bypassing the selection process, what they would do. As shown in Figure 9, 35 per cent of female and 33 per cent of male respondents would refuse the offer directly; whereas 16 per cent of female and 22 per cent of male respondents would like to accept the proposal.

**Figure 9: In reply of an offer to get help in getting into a good school/company, bypassing the regular selection process**



**Figure 10: In reply of a proposal of employer, to compromise future salary to get a dream job**



### ***Applying for a job***

The respondents were asked to reply in case they would like to sacrifice around 10 per cent to 20 per cent of their future salary to get a dream job. As shown in the Figure 10, around 49 per cent of female and 52 per cent of male respondents reported that they would refuse directly; whereas rest of the respondents was ready to accept the proposal. It is a matter of concern that almost 50 per cent of the respondents are ready to agree to such exploitation.

### **2.4 Experiencing Corruption**

The respondents were asked about their experiences of corruption in six daily regular activities. They were asked whether they had experienced corruption in last 12 months in six different services such as in getting official documents, in passing exams, in getting health care services, in avoiding police problems, in getting a job, and in getting more business for company.

**Figure 11: Experience of corruption in last 12 months**

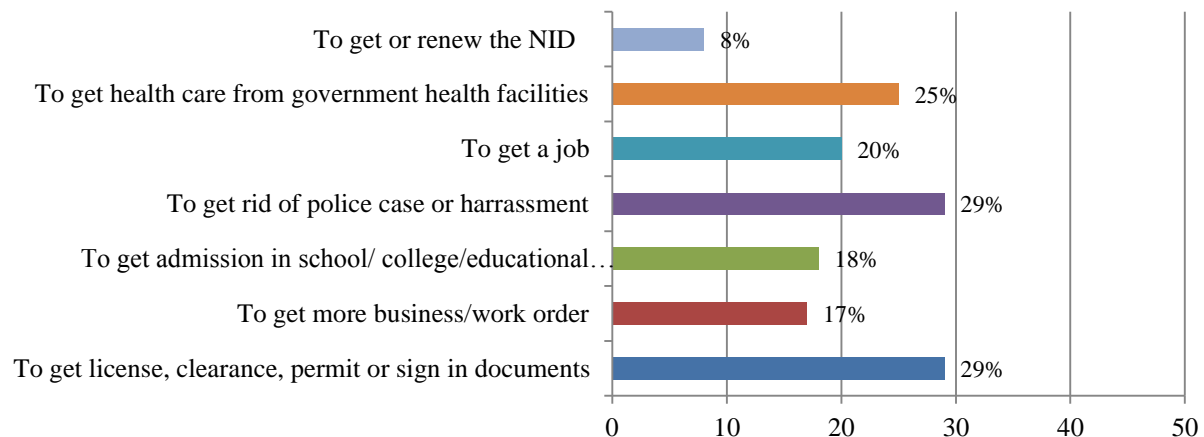


Figure 11 shows that the respondents experienced corruption less to get or to renew NID. On the other hand, to get license, clearance or permit and to get rid of police harassments or cases, people experienced more corruption than other sectors. 25 per cent of youth also experienced corruption during seeking healthcare from government health facilities. According to popular



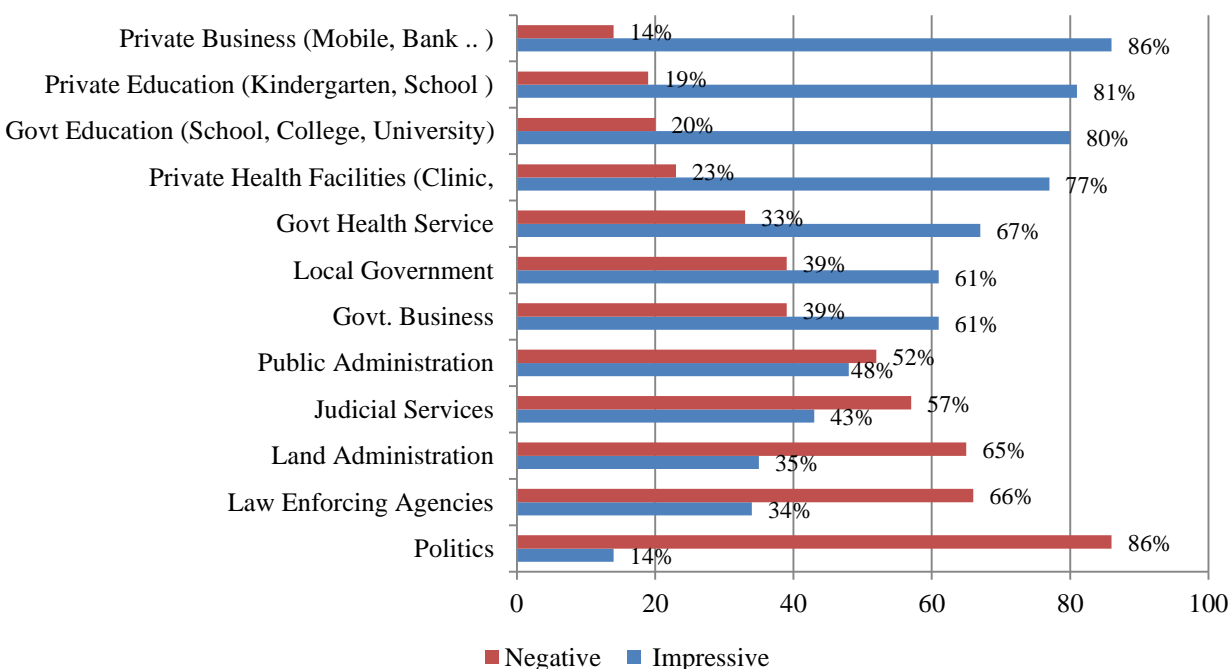
perception, youths are more vulnerable to corruption and facing more corruption than adults. Findings of this survey also support that notion.

### 2.5 Youth rating of integrity in different public and private sectors

The survey reveals that the trust of youth on public service is fairly low. Respondents were asked to give their assessment about the level of integrity in different public and private sectors. Here, 86 per cent of youth expressed their negative impression about the level of integrity in politics, followed by 66 per cent of youth about the law enforcing agencies, 65 per cent of youth about the land administration and 57 per cent of youth about the judicial services (Figure 12).

In contrast, 86 per cent of youth identified the level of integrity as impressive in private business sector, followed by 81 per cent of youth about the private education, 80 per cent of youth government education and 77 per cent of youth about the private health services.

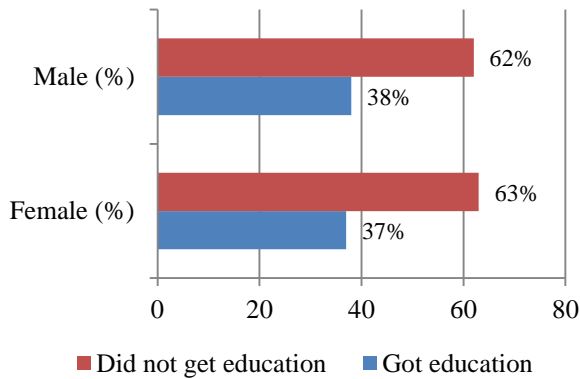
**Figure 12: Youth rating of Integrity at different sectors**



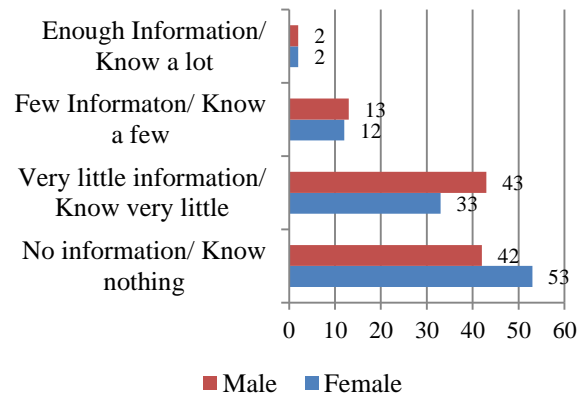
### 2.6 Education on Promoting Integrity and preventing corruption

The respondents were asked whether they had received any education or followed any specific program about integrity or anti-corruption efforts at school or any other institution. Almost two third of the respondents (62%) said that they have never received any such education, nor participated in any such program. On the other hand, around 38 per cent of the respondents informed that they got education on integrity and preventing corruption.

**Figure 13: Education on preventing corruption**



**Figure 14: Knowledge on Anti-corruption laws and regulations**

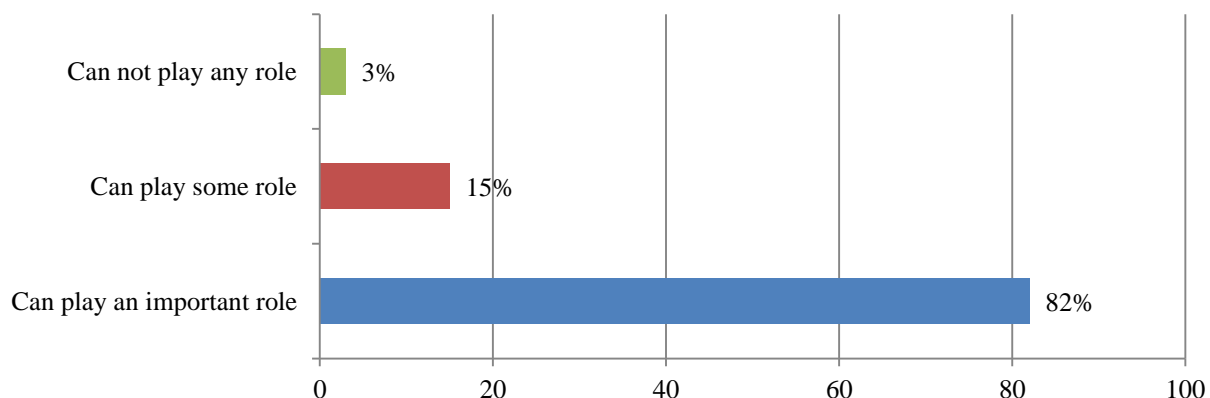


However, in a subsequent question they were asked how much information they had received regarding government rules and regulations to prevent corruption. 51 per cent of youth informed that they have no information regarding this and another 38 per cent of youth informed that they have very little information on anti-corruption laws and regulations. This finding clearly depicts that the existing education or the program regarding preventing corruption and promoting integrity was not that effective.

### 2.7 Role of youth in preventing corruption

Respondents were asked about their perception whether they could have any role in fighting corruption and promoting integrity. The majority of the youth (82%) believe that they can play an important role in fighting corruption, while in addition another 15 per cent said that they can play some role. However, a minor portion of youth (3%) thought that they have no opportunities to play role in such movement.

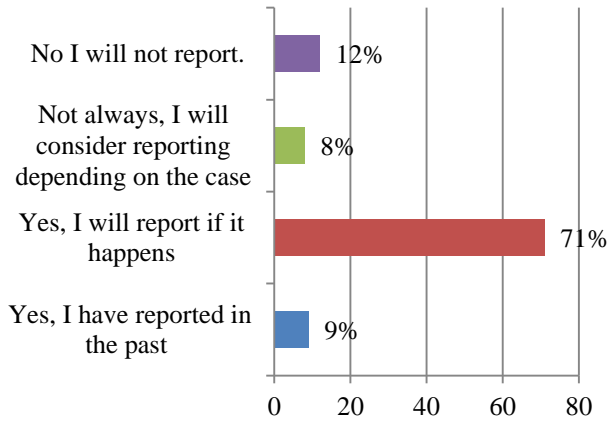
**Figure 15: Role of youth**



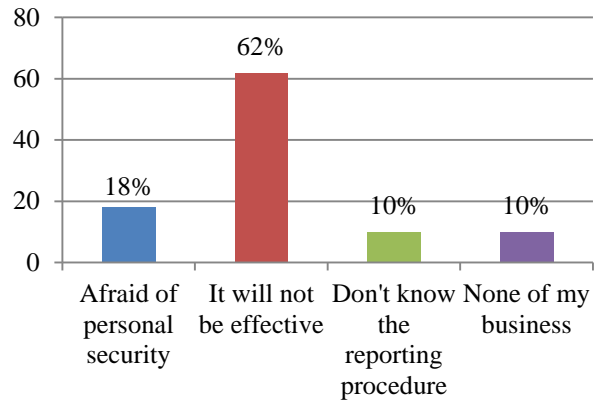
### 2.8 Report Corruption

To understand the willingness and the level of commitment of the youth to fight corruption, the respondents were asked whether they would take positive initiatives to report corruption to the higher authority in case of facing corruption.

**Figure 16: Report corruption**



**Figure 17: Reasons of not reporting corruption**

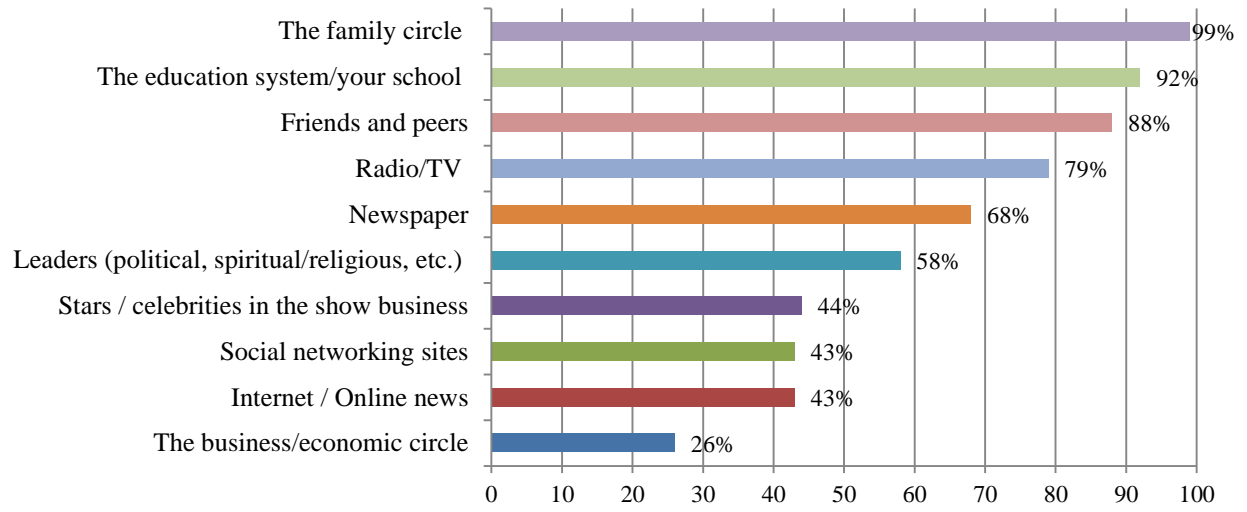


Here, a high portion of youth (71%) said that they would definitely report corruption if that happens. In addition another 9 per cent of youth informed that they have already reported corruption earlier which shows their better commitment to engage in anti-corruption movement. A significant number of respondents (12%) informed that they will consider reporting corruption depending on case. However, rest of the respondents (8%) said that they will not report as they perceive that will not be effective, or that is not their duty. Among them, 18 per cent of youth will not report in afraid of their personal security.

### 2.9 Influences on Youth

This survey tried to find out who has more influence on youth in building their views on promoting integrity and preventing corruption. According to the findings, family circle was seen to be the greatest influence on youth, as 99 per cent of youth informed that they were influenced most by the family members and relatives. In addition, 92 per cent of youth informed about their educational institutions, and 88 per cent of youth informed about the friends and peer colleagues that influenced them in building their views and perception about integrity. Around 43 per cent of youth mentioned the internet news and social networking sites as influential to build their views on integrity.

**Figure 18: Influence on Youth**



### **3.1 Overall Observation**

The analysis of survey data shows that the youth has a clear conception on integrity. It indicates their higher inclination towards integrity at conceptual level. Almost all of them ascertain “lack of integrity” as an enormous problem and detrimental to their friends and family, country’s economy, development and even for themselves. Besides, most of them think that being honest is more important than being rich. In addition, they hardly believe that a dishonest person has possibilities of success in comparison of an honest person. Nevertheless, they also identify some situational illegal activities or corrupt practice as wrong doing.

On the other hand, reverse scenarios have also been observed. Sometimes youth show deviant attitude towards integrity in practice. In spite of having a strong moral perception of integrity, a significant portion of youth agrees to compromise their integrity in some real life situations, especially in case of passing exam or getting job many of them are ready to adopt any means and they perceive it as a normal issue.

It has been seen in this survey that like others of the society youth also experience corruption in various service sectors. The youth identified that the integrity level in politics, followed by law enforcing agencies as bad. They also described the level of integrity in the public sectors worse than their counterparts in private.

In spite of all, it is a matter of hope that the youth believes that they can play an imperative role in establishing integrity and prevent corruption. Moreover, most of them are interested to report corruption whereas the majority of the rest believed that it will not be effective. Besides, lack of complain redress mechanism and security or protection discourage youth to report corruption.

According to survey data education on integrity or preventing corruption among youth is quite low. They have no or very little information about the rules and laws on preventing corruption. Survey finding also indicates that family and friends mostly influence youth in building their views, concept and perception on integrity.

However, no significant variation is found in respect to gender, age group, educational background, wealth ranking and living areas etc.

### **3.2 Recommendations**

Based on the survey findings TIB proposes the following recommendations:

1. Promotion and practice of integrity among youth should be more emphasized in the National Youth Policy, and an effective implementation strategy should be developed.

2. The role of youth in establishing integrity and preventing corruption should be included in the National Integrity Strategy Paper. The action plan for family mentioned in the strategy paper should be implemented properly.
3. An effective complain redress mechanism to report of corruption and enabling environment for youth should be ensured.
4. The existing integrity and anti-corruption related sections in the curriculum should be implemented more effectively.
5. Corruption should be established as a punishable offence and thus set examples before youth. The culture of impunity should be stopped.
6. Coordinated programs and massive awareness campaigns should be initiated involving all stakeholders to encourage and motivate youth towards integrity.

### **References and Further Reading**

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